



County of San Bernardino

## Ensen Mason CPA, CFA • Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector

NEWS RELEASE – For Immediate Release

September 16, 2019

# ENSEN MASON ANNOUNCES PROPERTY TAX POSTPONEMENT PROGRAM

**San Bernardino, CA** — San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector (ATC) Ensen Mason announced today that the 2019-20 Property Tax Postponement Program is available to qualifying taxpayers through the State Controller's Office (SCO). This loan program allows eligible homeowners, including low-income seniors and disabled individuals, to postpone the payment of their current-year property taxes on their primary residence at an interest rate of 7%.

"Low income seniors, the blind, and disabled residents of San Bernardino County deserve all the assistance we in government can provide," noted Mason. "Helping these residents remain in their own homes is a high priority for me, and I encourage all who qualify and are having difficulty paying their property taxes to sign up for this program as soon as possible. If my staff can help, please don't hesitate to contact them at (909) 387-8308."

Applications will be accepted from October 1, 2019, through February 10, 2020, and will be processed in the order they are received. To qualify, a homeowner must meet all of the following criteria.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Be at least 62 years of age, or blind, or disabled;
- Own and occupy the home as your primary place of residence;
- Have a total household income of \$35,500 or less;
- Have at least 40% equity in the property; and
- Not have a reverse mortgage on the property.

The interest rate for taxes postponed under the Property Tax Postponement Program is 7% per year. Postponed taxes and interest become due and payable when the homeowner moves or sells the property, transfers title, defaults on a senior lien, refinances, obtains a reverse mortgage, or passes away. Program participants must reapply each year and demonstrate they continue to meet eligibility requirements.

Funding for the program is limited. Applications are immediately available at the Tax Collector's Office located at 268 West Hospitality Lane, First Floor, in San Bernardino and online at [www.sco.ca.gov](http://www.sco.ca.gov) under the Public Services tab. For more information, please visit the SCO's website at [www.sco.ca.gov](http://www.sco.ca.gov). You may also contact the SCO by phone at (800) 952-5661 or by email at [postponement@sco.ca.gov](mailto:postponement@sco.ca.gov).

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